



K A N S A S

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Mumps Fact Sheet

What is mumps?

Mumps is a disease caused by the mumps virus.

What are the symptoms of mumps?

Symptoms of mumps usually include fever and swelling of the glands close to the jaw. In some men, mumps may also cause inflammation of the testicles. Other complications of mumps include meningitis (inflammation of the lining of the brain,) inflammation of the ovaries, and inflammation of the pancreas. In some rare instances, mumps may cause permanent deafness.

Who gets mumps?

Mumps is usually a disease of children and adolescents. But, in the current mumps outbreak, the majority of the people with mumps are young adults.

How is mumps spread?

Mumps is spread by coughing and sneezing. Symptoms usually appear between 14 and 18 days after infection.

How can I stop the spread of mumps?

If you have symptoms suggestive of mumps, you should avoid going to school or work, and see the doctor immediately. Persons diagnosed with mumps should stay home for 9 days after symptoms begin.

How can I prevent mumps?

A vaccine is available for mumps. Two doses as part of a combined vaccine against measles, mumps, and rubella are recommended. The MMR vaccine may be given to children as young as 12 months of age, with four weeks between the two doses.